Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbiological contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

KEY: for all units used in table

AL	Action Level
ICR	Information Collection Rule
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
NA	Not Applicable
ND	Not detected at testing limit
NR	Not regulated
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
ppb	Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (one part per billion is equivalent to one penny in 10 million dollars.)
ppm	Parts per million or milligrams per liter (one part per million is equivalent to one penny in 10 thousand dollars.)
TT	Treatment Technique

Regulated Contaminants Sample Date 2005

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, results represent water supplied to the distribution system by Hemphill WTP, Chatthoochee WTP and Atlanta-Fulton Co. WTP

Microbiological Monitoring Results: Total coliform bacteria-highest percentage of positive samples collected in one month

Parameter (present or absent in sample)	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	presence of coliform bacteria in 5.0% of monthly samples	0	0.4%	No	Naturally occuring

Turbidity: Highest single turbidity measurement, and lowest montly percentage of samples less than 0.3 NTU

Water Treatment Plants	Parameter/Units	MCL	Detected Level	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source
Hemphill & Chattahoochee: (blended water in distribution system)	Turbidity (NTU)	TT = 1 NTU	0.9 NTU	No	Soil runoff and erosion
	Turbidity (% of samples)	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	98%	No	
Atlanta-Fulton County	Turbidity (NTU)	TT = 1 NTU	0.07 NTU	No	
	Turbidity (% of samples)	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	100%	No	

Organic Contaminants

Parameter/Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range of Detections	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes/ppb	80	NA	44	23-66	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids/ppb	60	NA	44	22-77	No	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) *Hemphill and Chattahoochee*	TT	NA	1.0	n/a	No	Naturally present
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) *Atlanta-Fulton County*	TT	NA	1.1	n/a	No	

Note: TOC is a calculated removal ratio and is reported for compliance as a running annual average, computed quarterly

Note: TTHMs and HAA5 = reported for compliance as a running annual average

Inorganic Contaminants

Water Treatment Plants	Parameter/Units	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range of Detections	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source
Hemphill & Chattahoochee: (blended water in distribution system)	Fluoride/ppm	4	4	0.97	0.88-1.02	No	Water additive
	Nitrate as Nitrogen/ppm	10	10	0.58	0.56-0.58	No	Fertilizer runoff
Atlanta-Fulton County	Fluoride/ppm	4	4	0.98	0.92-1.1	No	Water additive
	Nitrate as Nitrogen/ppm	10	10	0.34	n/a	No	Fertilizer runoff

Parameter/Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range of Detections	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source
Chlorine/ppm	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG)	0.8	<0.05-2.2	No	Water additive

2005 City of Atlanta Water Quality Report

WSID # 1210001

Continuing Our Commitment

The City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management (DWM) is pleased to provide the 2005 Water Quality Report (WQR). Compiled and presented by the DWM Bureau of Drinking Water, this WQR supplies information about Atlanta's drinking water system and shows that the City's drinking water continues to meet or exceed standards established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Each year, the City conducts more than 50,000 tests to screen for more than 150 potential contaminants in its drinking water. Water is analyzed for hundreds of compounds; however, the table shown in this report lists only regulated substances that were detected during the tests, even if the detected amount was below the highest level allowed by EPA and federal regulations.

Throughout 2005, DWM continued its efforts to rebuild the City's drinking water infrastructure in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. The Department has completed main replacement or rehabilitation projects in the Spring Street, Bouldercrest Drive, Garden Hills and Capitol View communities; and began main replacement/rehabilitation projects in the Virginia-Highland neighborhood. In addition, DWM is replacing water mains in the McDaniel and Greensferry sewer basins in conjunction with sewer separation projects in those communities.

The Department also has begun a three-year Water System Components Survey to identify problems, such as malfunctioning valves and leaks in the distribution system, for repair/replacement. It continues to upgrade plants and other water facilities, and has focused new energy on its customer service operation, expanding customer service hours and instituting new bill payment options.

For more information about these or other current Clean Water Atlanta projects, visit www.cleanwateratlanta.org or call (404) 529-9211.

Our Monitoring Program

The City of Atlanta Water System and the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) have completed a source water assessment itemizing potential sources of surface water pollution to your drinking water supply. The results of this assessment can be found on the Internet at **http://www.atlanta regional.com/swap/** or you can request information by mail from the ARC.

Attn: Matthew Harper
Environmental Planning Division
Atlanta Regional Commission
40 Courtland Street, NE
Atlanta GA 30303

Sources of Your Water

Each day, the Atlanta water system provides approximately 120 million gallons of treated drinking water for more than 1 million residents in the metropolitan Atlanta area. All the water processed is surface water from the Chattahoochee River.

The raw water intake for the Chattahoochee and Hemphill Water Treatment Plants is located on the Chattahoochee River. The Chattahoochee Plant receives the water directly from the river. The Hemphill Plant processes raw water that has been pumped from the river to a reservoir. These two plants supply about 75% of Atlanta's drinking water. The remaining water is supplied by the Atlanta-Fulton County Water Treatment Plant, which also processes water from the Chattahoochee River. This plant supplies treated (finished) water to the northeast area of our distribution system.

Facts on Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Some people may be more vulnerable than the general population to contaminants in drinking water. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemo-therapy; persons who have undergone organ transplants; people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders; some elderly; and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Monthly monitoring results did not detect any Cryptosporidium in our source (raw) water.
Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the United States. When ingested, it can cause symptoms such as nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps.
Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, however, it may be spread through means other than drinking water. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease within a few weeks. Immuno-compromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life-threatening illnesses and are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to prevent infection.

Communications & Public Outreach

The Department's Communications & Public Outreach Division exists to educate and inform residents about water quality issues and infrastructure projects that may affect them. The division also includes a public education component designed to encourage and educate community groups, residents, schoolchildren and seniors about water conservation and water resource issues. For information about the Communications & Public Outreach Division, please contact Marilyn Johnson at (404) 330-6980.

Contact Information:
City of Atlanta • Bureau of Drinking Water,
Water Quality Division
650 Bishop St. NW, Atlanta GA 30318 • 404-982-1458

To obtain a copy of this report, please visit:
http://apps.atlantaga.gov/citydir/water/wqr2004.pdf
Please send your comments & feedback to
citywater@atlantaga.gov

Important Information
This Report contains very important information about your drinking water. If you do not understand it, have someone explain it to you.
Este informe contiene information muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.

About Lead and Copper

Lead is rarely found in source water, but enters the tap water through corrosion of plumbing materials. In 1986, Congress banned the use of solder containing more than 0.2% lead and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing materials. The regulation for lead became effective in 1992. Between 1993-1995, the EPA required water suppliers to collect and analyze water samples from household taps twice a year and to determine if lead was present above 15 ppb in more than 10 percent of all homes tested. (This is referred to as the Action Level for lead).

The City of Atlanta's monitoring results have shown that lead levels are found to be consistently below the Action Level. As a result, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division authorized reduced monitoring to once per year under the Lead and Copper Rule. In 2003, based on our system's lead and copper monitoring history, the GA EPD authorized an additional reduced monitoring requirement. Our system has begun triennial monitoring or once in a three-year cycle. Our next scheduled monitoring will be in 2006.

The table below shows the most recent lead and copper monitoring results. For more information about lead, consumers may contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit the website **www.epa.gov/safewater/lead/index.html**.

Inorganic Contaminants (Sample Date 2003)
Lead and Copper 90th percentile value of samples

Parameter/unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range of Detections	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source
Copper/ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	0.2	53 samples, no sites were found above the AL	No	Household plumbing
Lead/ppb	Al=15	0	4.1	53 samples, 1 site was found above the AL	No	Household plumbing